“STEM Student Professional Skills Symposium”
SSPSS
October 20, 2018

Schedule: 9 AM to 4 PM programming

8:30 AM Lite Breakfast and registration – Breakfast Costco type items boxed coffee for everyone, juices, granola, water

9:00 General Session – all (auditorium)

Welcome by Space Grant Director - NASA and MSGC Opportunities

9:20 Transition 10 minutes

9:30 Professional Development Session 1 Choose One
(Affiliates meeting in Seminar Room)

1. Think Outside the Box – Explore What’s possible with your education-
   Auditorium
   o Self-Assessments to guide discovery of interests and values
   o General career/major discovery

2. Build Your Professional Brand - Resume Writing 101 Classroom
   o A hands-on workshop - walk away with the outlines of a resume
   o Get ideas on how to build your resume even more
   o Craft your elevator pitch and practice

10:30 Professional Development Session 2 Choose One
(Affiliates meeting in Seminar Room)

1. Build Your Professional Brand - Resume Writing 101 Classroom
   o A hands-on workshop - walk away with the outlines of a resume
   o Get ideas on how to build your resume even more
   o Craft your elevator pitch and practice

2. Building Experience Auditorium
   o Internship/research searching (what to expect, when to apply, why, what’s available)
   o Translating that experience into marketable skills

11:30 Lunch and Networking with Planetarium Show
Lunch Catered Sack Lunch by Cravins

No food in the Planetarium so eat before or after the show you pick

11:30 Planetarium Show – Einstein Gravity Play – Eric Loberg
12:00 Planetarium Show – Einstein Gravity Play – Eric Loberg

12:30 Professional Development Session 3 in Auditorium

  Professional Skills

1:30 Break 15 minutes

1:45 Professional Development Session 4 in Auditorium

  Overcoming Obstacles

2:30 Professional Panel Discussion in Auditorium

  Panel Discussion
  My Job and What I do
  Student Question and Answer Session

  Panel Participants:

    o Joseph Schmoll – National Transportation Safety Board (via Webex)
    o Dave Riesland – Redstone Arsenal
    o Nichole Murray – Lockheed (via Webex)
    o Mitch Hobish- Sciential Consulting
    o Jenny Hane – SEAKR Engineering
    o Katey Plymesser – Civil Engineering Department at Montana State University

3:45 Wrap Up

4:00 Museum Time on Your Own - Stickers Provided

5:00 Museum Closes

Panel Bios:
**Dr. Mitchell Hobish** has been self-employed for over 32 years, in activities ranging from professional coaching for individuals and small businesses to large-scale scientific and technical strategic planning for private-sector, academic, and governmental organizations, internationally. Most of his efforts have been in supporting NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, but he has worked with many other federal agencies, either directly or through contractors. Mitch has supported the Montana Space Grant Consortium for years in several educational and programmatic capacities, and recently stepped down as the executive director of the National Space Grant Foundation. Mitch has earned undergraduate degrees in English (with a minor in electrical engineering) and biology, and holds a doctorate in biochemistry, but he has experience across a wide range of technical disciplines, often well outside his areas of formal education. Mitch has contributed to receipt of over $200,000,000 of research and business grants and contracts for his clients with a sterling track record in several agencies’ Small Business Innovation Research programs.

**David Riesland** is an optical engineer working in the area of electro-optics for the US Army. David became involved with Montana Space Grant Consortium (MSGC) as a freshman when studying undergraduate Electrical Engineering at Montana State University. He was heavily involved with the high altitude ballooning program BOREALIS as a freshman and sophomore, and attended NASA Academy at Glenn Research Center (GRC) the summer after his sophomore year. Optics became a passion after becoming involved in MSGC's spectrograph competition, and he began remote sensing research in an optics lab at MSU shortly thereafter. He then went on to pursue a master's degree in Optics and Photonics at MSU while doing cloud research under MSU's Optical Remote Sensor Lab (ORSL) with the National Science Foundation (NSF) and NASA. David currently specializes in remote sensing, radiometry, and optical projection at the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center (AMRDEC) in Huntsville, AL.

**Jennifer (Jenny Sue) Hane** is an Electrical Engineer specializing in FPGA design and radiation tolerance. She graduated from Montana State University with an MSEE in 2012. Jennifer joined BOREALIS as a freshman and participated in this MSGC program throughout her undergraduate years, interning with the high-altitude balloon group for two summers. She was a member of MSU's inaugural Lunabotics Mining Competition design team, and would later participate in Dr. LaMeres' fault-tolerant reconfigurable computing project as a graduate research assistant. Jennifer currently works for SEAKR Engineering Inc., an aerospace company which produces memory recorders, data processors, and other components for satellites. "FPGA Engineer" is my official title.

**Joseph Schmoll** is a Government Affairs Specialist working at the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). After majoring in Mechanical Engineering and minoring in International Business at Montana State University, he began his career as a mechanical engineer for Bechtel. He relocated to Washington, D.C. to work on design and construction oversight of mechanical
systems in an expansion of their subway. After three years, he became increasingly interested in changing course and applying his technical background to the world of public policy and began looking for work on Capitol Hill. While working part-time for Bechtel, he interned for two members of the House of Representatives as well as a short stint with the Korea National Assembly. He then spent five years with Sen. Steve Daines, advising the Senator on a variety of issues, namely transportation and infrastructure, as a member of committees with jurisdiction over the Department of Transportation. Now, he uses his congressional and technical experiences to help elected officials and their staffs understand NTSB’s accident investigations, reports, and safety recommendations as they develop legislation.

Nichole Murray

Dr. Katey Plymesser holds a B.S. (Case Western Reserve University ’01) and Ph.D. (MSU ’14) degrees in Civil Engineering. She began her academic career at Montana State University – Billings with a teaching and research tenure-track appointment. Dr. Plymesser joined the Civil Engineering Department at Montana State University in 2016. Her research is focused in ecohydraulics and fish passage with a particular fondness for the application of hydraulic and fluid dynamic models to answer research questions in natural settings. She has worked with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) both in Bozeman and at the Region 5 Headquarters in Amherst, MA on fish passage research projects and practical applications and assessments that culminated in the creation of a passage model for American shad in Steeppass (modified Denil) fishways. Her work is supported by the USGS and USFWS. Dr. Plymesser currently teaches Engineering Mechanics, Statics and Fluid Dynamics. She has been engaging both undergraduate and graduate students in research since she began her own graduate work in 2008. Through her work with the Montana State University chapter of Engineers Without Borders she has been active in promoting student engagement and involvement.